

**RAIL SERVICE COMPETITION COUNCIL  
AGRICULTURE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Thursday  
October 11, 2007  
8:45am – 9:30am**

**Commission Room  
Helena, MT**

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**RSCC AG SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carla Allen (Chair), Mike O'Hara (Chair of RSCC), and Sen. Ken Hansen

**RSCC AG SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rep. Mike Milburn, Frank Schoonover, Joel Clairmont and Rep. Mike Jopek

**RSCC Assistance:** Terry Whiteside, Gloria O'Rourke

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**AG SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE:** Ag Subcommittee Chair Carla Allen provided an overview as to work of the subcommittee. Carla said Terry Whiteside had compiled a survey which was sent to each subcommittee member. Not everyone has returned the survey.

Terry Whiteside explained the surveys will be used to identify and analyze problems in the agriculture industry relating to transportation competition or the lack thereof. Once the problems have been identified, they will be categorized according to severity. Next, the subcommittee will prioritize the problems and work on solutions in each category.

Terry noted the survey did not address container traffic and intermodal transport and may need to be expanded in the future.

Carla Allen requested each subcommittee member review a copy of Terry Whiteside's freight rate of wheat and barley study as it gives the picture of profitability BNSF is receiving from Montana producers.

**NEXT STEPS:**

As most of the subcommittee could not meet today, Carla will request a conference call soon. Carla would like to have the problems identified in the next month, and then begin crafting solutions. An email will be sent to the subcommittee for members to return the surveys to Terry. The subcommittee will work around Terry's schedule for the next conference call, which will probably be the end of October or first part of November.